

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Puerto Rico Department of Health Auxiliary Secretariat for Environmental Health Public Water Supply Supervision Program

May 25, 2001

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Muszynski

Mr. William Muszynski Acting Regional Administrator US EPA Region 2 290 Broadway New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Action Plan for Disasters and Administrative Penalty on Small Systems

Dear mister Muszinki:

On August 21, 2000, the Public Water Supply Supervision (PWSS) Program submitted a Primacy Revision Application Package for approval of the program revision to adopt new or revised EPA regulations pursuant Section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments and 40 CFR Part 142, Subpart B. The package covered the PWS definition, Administrative Penalty Authority, circumstances requiring emergency plans for the provision of Safe Water and Consumer Confidence Report Rule.

The purpose of this letter is to clarify two EPA concerns about this submittal, the action Plan for Disasters and the Administrative penalty on small systems.

Regarding the Action Plan for Disaster, I will like to inform you that the PWSS Program has an active action plan for this purpose. After reviewing the document it is my understanding that it is an adequate plan for the provision of safe drinking water and covers emergency circumstances that include, but not limited to, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters.

This Plan has been used in the past emergencies as drought periods and hurricanes Hortense and Georges, with positive results. Since 1991, no waterborne outbreaks have been registered in the island.

In relation to the administrative penalties that ensures adequate compliance for small systems, the PWSS Program throught an amendment of the Administrative Order 2000-275-00 covered the Hand Stranger British British British small systems (<10,000 people) placed at intervals the penalties according to the population. served. A copy of this amendment is included. OPM/PPEB

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Mr. William Muszynski Page 2. May 25, 2001

Thank you, for your evaluation and consideration. I hope that the information provided will be useful and clarifies your concerns regarding this matter.

If you have any questions, please fell free to contact me or your staff may contact Mrs. Olga I. Rivera, PWSS Program Director, at (787) 648-1903/3903

Cordially,

Alfredo Casta Vélez Assistance Secretary for Environmental Health

Enclosure:

Cf: Olga I. Rivera- PWSS Program Carl A. Soderberg- CEPD Bruce Kiselica – EPA Region 2 Mike Lowy- EPA Region 2



COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

April 10, 2001

Administrative Hearings Division Department of Health

RE: AMENDMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2000-275-00 OF AUGUST 18, 2000, "TO ADOPT AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES ACCORDING TO THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT".

The following paragraph is hereby added to Administrative Order 2000-275-00 at the end of the first paragraph of Page 3, in accordance with Section 1413(a)(6)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C.A. 300 (j):

In the case of any other system, including any system serving a population less than 10,000, from now on the penalties to be imposed by the DOH Hearing Division Officials shall be determined using the following guidelines:

- 1. If the water system serves a population up to 500, the penalty imposed shall be no less than \$ 100.00 per day, per violation and no greater than \$5,00.00 per day per violation.
- 2. If the water system serves a population more than 501 and less than 3,300, the penalty imposed shall be no less than \$250.00 per day, per violation and no greater than \$5,000.00 per day violation.
- 3. If the water system serves a population more than 3,301 and less than to 10,000, the penalty imposed shall be no less than \$500.00 per day and no greater than \$5,000.00 per day violation.

This amendment to Administrative Order 2000-275-00 shall be effective immediately.

Secretary of Health

Date: April , 2001

cc: Bruce Kiselica, EPA Region II Carl Soderberg, CEPD Olga Rivera, DOH WATER PROGRAMS BRANCH